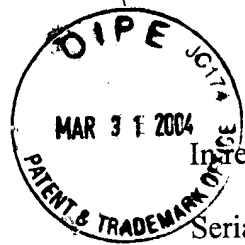


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **SAITO, Makoto**

Group Art Unit: **3621**

Serial No.: **09/476,334**

Examiner: **John W. Hayes**

Filed: **January 3, 2000**

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Attorney Docket No.: **990696A**

Customer Number: **38834**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
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Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. A copy of each listed document is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, because it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) on March 7, 2004 or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

Serial No.: 09/476,334
Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)
March 31, 2004

The Commission is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully Submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. Kong", with a stylized, flowing script.

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